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Rising level of Lawlessness and Tribal Insubordination

Tribes Menace the State

Over the last few weeks, events have taken an ominous twist. There have been a number of showdowns between armed tribesmen and the state. These were not the first events to occur. The armed tribes have become more and more daring in challenging state authority. On the 19th of October, a group of armed tribesmen confiscated a number of trucks in the village of Matna, some 30 kilometers west of Sanaa, in the Bani Matar area. The trucks carried goods and supplies to Sanaa. On Monday, the 20th of October, the highway running south connecting Sanaa to the main cities of Aden, Taiz and Ibb was cut off at Dhamar. This resulted in a sense of helplessness as travellers were stranded. Tribesmen also cut off the tourist attraction areas of Kawkaban and Thula.

On Tuesday, 21st October, the highway linking Sanaa to Marib on the east was blocked, cutting off vital supplies of diesel, gas, and other supplies to the capital city. Although these blockades were all lifted, following negotiations between the armed tribes and the state bodies, they were a reminder once again that the state faced enormous challenges. It is true that the state authorities can have brute force - in the form of a large military establishment with lots of hardware. But mobilizing this force and using it against the northern tribes is neither practical nor acceptable to the regime. At another level, kidnapping of foreigners continues. A British national, kidnapped a few days ago is still in captivity in Bani Dhabyan. Over the recent past, citizens from Germany,

France, and other nations had been kidnapped. Although they have been released safely, the kidnappings are a signal that the officials in Sanaa do not have adequate control over the situation. Most Yemenis and observers are weary of these ominous developments.

65,000 Mines Cleared, But More Work Lies Ahead!

Yemen Hosts Seminar on Mines

Since the guns fell silent on July 7th, 1994, following a bloody 2-month civil war, the government of Yemen has cleared 65,000 mines. The Ministry of Defence reports that it had cleared some "20,000 mines immediately following the war, and some 45,000 mines since April 1995". But the same sources add that there are a lot of mines still left to be cleared. Indeed, the bombs that go off here and there claiming civilian casualties attest to that fact. The mines had been planted by the secessionist forces to block the march of the

unionist forces which were advancing on Aden. Thus, they were planted in a crescent-shape line which starts a few kilometers west of Little Aden, runs north, then east around the city, stretches halfway towards Abyan, and down to the sea. There are also mine fields in the governorates of Hadhramaut and in the north and west of Lahej. The government of Yemen, supported by international organizations and donor countries, has embarked on an effort to remedy the situation. In addition to mine-clearing, a major mines awareness effort

has been underway. Next week, on 3-4/11/1997, the government of Yemen in collaboration with Radda Barmen and various UN bodies, will hold a seminar on anti-personnel mines. Many governments in the region and international NGOs have been invited. Canada and Norway, whose governments pursue a vigorous anti-mine policy, are actively involved.

Yemen & Saudi Arabia Are Getting There

More Intensive Talks

The mood is upbeat. Yemen and Saudi Arabia are working overtime to refine the proposals they have been exchanging regarding a draft of the border agreement they are working on. Last week, HRH Prince Nayif Bin Abdulaziz, Saudi Interior Minister, brought to President Ali Abdullah Saleh what he termed as the "absolutely rock-bottom and last offer" on the

Saudi side. The Saudis made one more compromise. On Monday, October 20th, Colonel Abdullah Al-Basheeri, Secretary-General of the Presidential Office and the President's Confidante, flew to Riyadh to offer Yemen's rock-bottom and last offer. The two sides are slowly inching to each other as they narrow the gap holding back the signing of a border agreement. It could be here before the year is out!

President Saleh Concludes Paris Visit Successfully

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the large entourage accompanying him have just completed a 3-day working visit to Paris.

During the visit, the President held a tete-a-tete meeting with French President Jacques Chirac and another one with Prime Minister Lionel Jospin. He also met other French officials. The President, after his cordial and fruitful talks in Paris, flew back via Jordan.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Harnessing Rain Water

Yemen is one of the least water-endowed countries of the world. We have no lakes. We have no rivers. And we are fast exhausting our underground aquifers. Therefore, harnessing rain water is a rational and visible priority. Unfortunately, this is not happening at the moment.

These days are the rainy seasons - one of three during the whole year. The country gets considerable rainfall in a short period of time. Indeed, the rainfall is erratic. But we can harness the water and put it to good use. The main option to us is building small dams and cisterns. I think building small dams and water reservoirs is a viable possibility and a good idea. It is practical for many reasons, as follows:

1. Helpful Terrain:

The mountainous terrain of the country is conducive to building little reservoirs and dams. The mountains first of all give us watersheds that easily channel and direct the rain water, and second, they enable us to build dams by connecting the sides of mountains.

2. Available Skills:

Yemenis boast a long history of water harnessing by building dams and reservoirs. After all, it was our ancestors who built the Marib Dam which allowed the Sabaean civilization to flourish. All over the country, little cisterns used to dot the landscape.

3. Tapping Unused Manpower:

Yemen today has a major unemployment problem. Most of the available labor is skilled in one thing - construction. Therefore, by embarking on a widescale construction of dams and cisterns, we will create employment opportunities, and also tap available skills.

4. Environmental Upgrading:

Over the last few decades, Yemenis have damaged much of the environmental beauty of the land. Trees have been cut down and never replaced, desertification has crept in, and old terraces have been allowed to tumble down due to lack of maintenance. Harnessing rainfalls could enable us reverse the environmental degradation.

5. Self-Help Initiatives:

Building localized water reservoirs could be a good scheme to revive the partnership between the people and the state. The construction of the small dams could easily be a joint venture between the official organizations and local voluntary efforts and NGOs.

6. More Water:

First and foremost of all reasons, of course, is the fact that there will be more water available for the nation because of better harnessing of rainwater. Surface water can be used for irrigation and various other uses. The underground reservoirs will be replenished.

For those and other reasons, I feel that the government should zero-in on the construction of small dams. If we can agree on the goal of constructing of 100 little dams and one large one every year, for the next ten years, we could resolve the water problem of this country. It is workable. It is within our reach!

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Prof. Saqqaf in China on an Official Visit

Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Member of the Consultative Council and Chief Editor of the Yemen Times, left Sanaa on Friday, October 24th. The one-week official visit to China comes in response to an invitation from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the visit, Mr. Saqqaf will meet Chinese officials, intellectuals and media personalities to discuss bilateral cooperation. He will also discuss preparations for the coming visit of President Ali Abdullah Saleh to Beijing in February 1998.

TeleYemen's Bad Internet Service

Many users of TeleYemen's internet services are frustrated. Not only does the monopolistic company over-charge, but the quality of the service is lousy. One of the major problems is that users are randomly disconnected while on-line.

Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Foreign Minister, a customer, has personally complained to the Minister of Communications, Mr. Ahmed Al-Anisi. Another minister, Eng. Mohammed Al-Tayyeb, Minister of Labor and Vocational Training, also complained. Both ministers, and some 80 customers, have signed a letter of complaint to the Minister of Communications. The Minister, himself an efficient man, is said to be considering the options.

Exeter University Organizes Seminar on Change in Yemen

The University of Exeter, UK, is preparing for a high-quality seminar on Yemen. The meeting, scheduled for April 1998, will look at the challenges facing the country's political, economic and social transformations. Several academicians and practitioners are invited.

Fight Against Polio Goes On

The first round of the second stage of the National Days to Eradicate Polio has started on Sunday, October 26 in all governorates. It is hoped that polio will completely disappear from Yemen by the year 2000. President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in his meeting with the Minister of Health and representatives of the UNICEF and WHO, commended the positive results of the first stage of immunization which was conducted late last year. The President also called on all parents to cooperate with the health authorities in order to protect their offspring against the six deadly childhood diseases. Several training courses were held in various governorates to educate health workers in vaccination procedures. The 3-day immunization campaign is targeting a total of 3,456,482 children.

Week of the Blind

More than 45,000 blind people in Yemen suffering in silence was disclosed during the activities of the 6th Week of the Blind which began October 19th in Sanaa. Several donations were pledged by the government to help the blind during the coming year. A 3-phase project to integrate blind young people into the education system was also proposed by the government.

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Saeed Al-Hakeemi:

“If every community leader pushed locals to build small dams by self-help initiatives, our water crisis would be resolved.”

Mr. Saeed Al-Hakeemi is one of the senior politicians of Yemen. He has served in many capacities for many years, holding such posts as governor, minister, ambassador, etc. His most recent job was as assistant secretary-general of the Supreme Elections Committee, with direct responsibility for the media and external observers. Today, Mr. Al-Hakeemi is a member of the Consultative Council.

But that is only one side of his interests. The man is also heavily involved in many voluntary and self-help initiatives. He is the chairman of the Yemeni Red Crescent Society. He is also the Head of the Coordinating Body of several NGOs and cooperatives in Hugarriah, Taiz. He himself is the chairman of an NGO in the area around Turba.

One of the key projects Mr. Al-Hakeemi is now promoting is the construction of a dam in his region. He feels this is the best way to remedy the water crisis.

Dr. Salah Haddah, Managing Editor of Yemen Times talked to him extensively and filed the following interview.

Q: Water is becoming a major concern in Yemen. What is being done in this regard?

A: To start with, Yemen is a semi-arid country. Thus it is not well-endowed in water supply. There are no perennial rivers, no lakes, and no abundance in rainfall. The balance between supply and demand in the past had been kept because of wise water use policies in society.

In the recent past, water-use has been very bad. We have wasteful in many ways, especially in the irrigation of fields. Even in the cities, water consumption has risen to an alarming level.

To add insult to injury, we have discontinued the extremely vital water harnessing mechanisms of the past. By this, I mean building small water reservoirs and dams. As a result, the water situation has been precarious as this generation of users has been exhausting one aquifer after another of underground water collected over centuries.

Q: Could you tell us more about the haphazard exhaustion of underground water?

A: There is a rampant and harmful trend in drilling water wells. You can see the countryside, and even the cities, pierced with all kinds of water wells. The Consultative Council is now evolving a proper policy for this matter. It is going to be hard, but we have to bite the bullet in order to salvage whatever is left of the underground water reservoirs.

In the absence of direct and active supervision, there are thousands of wells which are being constantly drilled all over the country.

Irrigating that cursed shrub called qat is using up plenty of water. Planting qat has become a major culprit in the water depletion, thus threatening the future of the whole nation.

Q: How do you propose to persuade farmers to stop growing qat?

A: We, of course, cannot force people to do anything. People must start to think seriously about the future of their children and grandchildren. If matters continue in the same way, future generations will not have any water left to live on.

If qat-growing is to be allowed to continue, it should be based on rain water only. The underground water resources must be set aside for drinking purposes only. It is the responsibility of all citizens to

conserve water - our most precious national resource.

Q: What is the answer?

A: I think the answer is to build little dams and block the rainwater that flows to the sea or the desert. It is not an accident that this country survived over the ages. We do not need to re-invent anything.

Q: I understand you are personally setting an example in this?

A: Yes. I believe if influential people and community elders push the locals to take the initiative to conserve water use on the one hand, and help harness rain water on the other, a solution will be at hand. If each community builds a small dam, then there is no worry about the future.

I had previously instigated and supervised the construction of a cistern to collect rainwater for use of livestock and to wash clothes in my region in Hugarriah. But the problem has recently become worse.

We are now in the process of constructing a larger dam to serve four regions - Madhahij, Akahila, Rabbaisa, and Ahkoom. It will help replenish the depleted water wells. The Thabet Brothers Group of Companies has donated YR 5 million for building the dam. This covers a good part of the cost. The group also contributes to the clearing and dredging of wells and improving the water supply network.

Q: How much will this dam cost and how many people will it serve?

A: The cost is estimated at over 10 million riyals. Not less than 20,000 people will directly benefit from it. It will also help reduce soil erosion caused by torrents, which will be kept at bay by the new dam. The lake or reservoir behind the dam will have a surface area of about 2500 square meters. The depth will be dictated by technical considerations and geography.

Above all, the new dam will encourage many families to stay in the area and tend to their small farms and livestock.

Q: Is this dam the end of the rainbow for your region?

A: This has to be part of a comprehensive program for dam construction. In the old days, people used to build small dams to better control and utilize flood water. With the introduction of piped water supplies, people started to



neglect dam construction. Thus, many of the old dams went into disrepair.

Q: What other measures other than dam construction can be taken to alleviate the water crisis?

A: Public awareness is key in our fight. Media campaigns will play a major role in this effort. Improved irrigation techniques is another part of the solution. Drip irrigation, for example, could be introduced.

In households, water taps with special stopping valves can be utilized to conserve water. Finally, this matter is the responsibility of all people - citizens as well as official. In addition to the authorities, the general public has to shoulder responsibility for water conservation. The Ministry of Endowments and Religious Guidance, for example, is planning to install special water taps in mosques around the country to help conserve water, used for ablutions before prayers. All these issues and several others are now being seriously discussed by parliament, Council of Ministers, the Consultative Council, and other bodies.

Q: You are the chair of an effort of several NGOs and cooperatives to coordinate their work. Could you tell us more about your experience?

A: It is a new experience. The Coordination Council is an umbrella for six NGOs and cooperatives. It works to coordinate their activities in water, road, health educational, and other projects. Shared projects are jointly managed and maintained. This has helped by reducing overhead costs, and has allowed us to benefit from economies of scale.

I want to stress here that each NGO and cooperative retains its identity, independence and its projects.

Q: Let's move to another issue. How do you evaluate the last parliamentary elections? You were a key member of the Supreme Elections Committee.

A: As an election administering body, the Supreme Elections

maintaining information about and instruction regarding every constituency. Observers were able to inspect these files.

We did everything we could to raise the level of trust and confidence in the elections. I think we did a good job. The electoral process was conducted within the stipulations of the law.

Everything was above board. However, some political parties, especially those which boycotted the elections, tried to discredit the outcome.

Of course, we accept that there were shortcomings, given our short experience in this field. The country's performance will improve with time.

Q: The nation is celebrating the anniversaries of the Revolution. Do you think we have reason to celebrate?

A: A lot has been achieved during the last 35 years of the revolution. Our achievements went beyond the expectation of the people who started the revolution. Yemen has changed for the better, beyond recognition. The achievements cannot be enumerated.

Of course, there is still a lot to be accomplished and many ambitions to be realized. But this is limited by our absorptive capacity, not only the limited resources. Too much change

compressed in too short a time, even if feasible, is dangerous and could backfire.

I believe in gradual change that does not shock or alienate any important segment of society. This is the right approach.

Q: The proposed administrative re-division of the country has resulted in much controversy. Where does this stand now?

A: Let me start with some basic points. All parties agree that there is need to re-structure our administrative districts. This is dictated by the need for better efficiency, more harmonious blocks, socio-trial integration, and more meaningful nation-building based on a decentralized system.

The original idea of re-zoning the country started several years ago. A special committee, headed by Qadhi Abdulkreem Al-Arashi, was formed to establish the criteria for the new divisions. That was a decade ago. The committee's gave its evaluations.

Then following unity, a new committee was formed, this time headed by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar. This committee was paralyzed by political disputes.

The Consultative Council has now given a fresh proposal which is being discussed by the government. I think we should interact positively with this effort.

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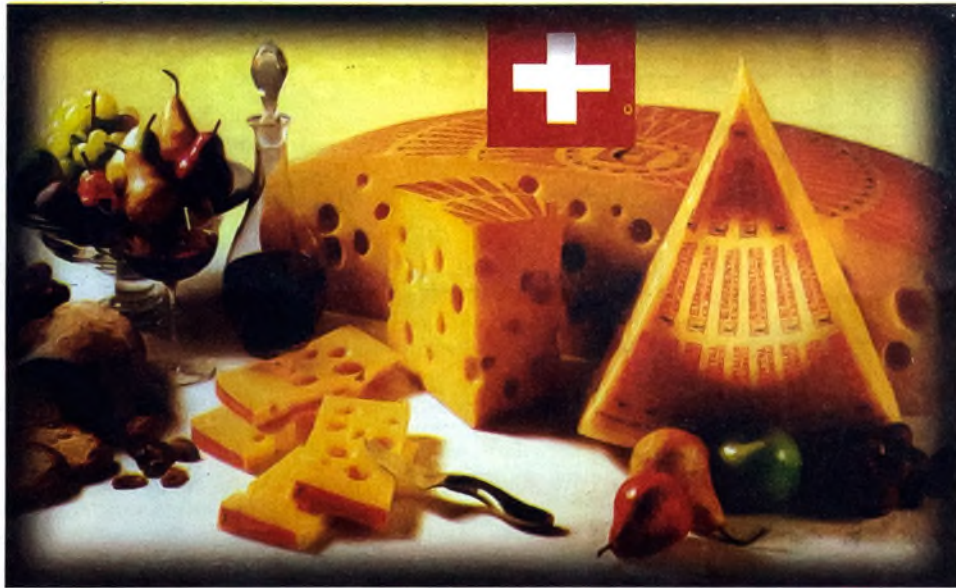
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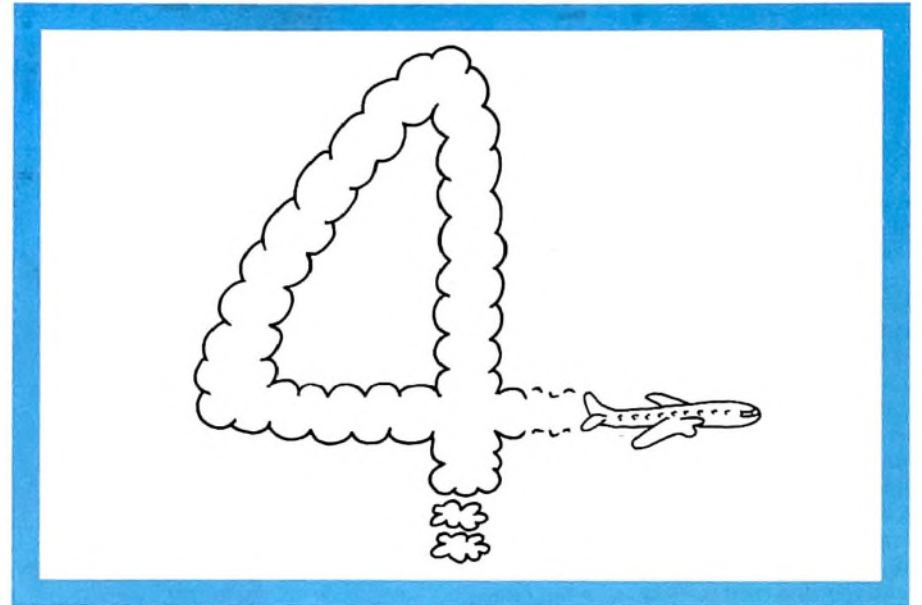


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YOS Returns to Bab al Mandab

Each year countless millions of birds migrate from summer breeding territories in Europe and Asia to their wintering grounds in Africa. Following traditional flyways down the natural migratory corridors of Yemen's mountain chains and her Red Sea coast, the vast majority of these birds migrate inconspicuously, often traveling at night or at such altitude that they aren't seen.

Depending on prevailing winds, most migrants follow the shortest routes possible, often crossing wide expanses of open water to reach their destinations

Hawks and eagles, however, prefer to stay close to land and generally cross open water at its narrowest points. For this reason, Falsterbro in Sweden, Suez in Egypt, the Bosphorus in Turkey, and Bab al Mandab in

Yemen are regions where huge concentrations of these birds gather for relatively short hops across open sea.

The mass migration of hawks and eagles across Bab al Mandab had long been conjectured, but it wasn't until Geoff and Hilary Welch launched several expeditions to Djibouti that this movement of birds was actually documented. The Welch's work culminated in the Djibouti III expedition of 1987, during which almost 300,000 hawks and eagles of 28 species were counted migrating (from Yemen) across the straits at Bab al Mandab.

Last year, a team of birders from the Yemen Ornithological Society (YOS) led a group of students to Bab al Mandab for the first informed look at this migratory phenomenon in Yemen. During four hours of observations tens of thousands of hawks and eagles were seen

gathering for the short flight to Djibouti.

This year, a second YOS team was permitted to enter the top security area at Bab al Mandab.

In spite of severe winds counter to the direction of migration, thousands of raptors were again recorded making the crossing. By far the most numerous were Steppe Buzzards; birds which nest as far away as northern Siberia, and which may winter as far south as Cape Town, South Africa. Ten other species of eagles, vultures, and harriers were observed in smaller numbers.



Although, documentation of this globally important migration has only occurred recently, it has probably been known about for centuries. Each year, Bedouin falcon-trappers from Marib camp in the area for up to four months. Using pigeons harnessed with monofilament loops, they annually catch more than 100 falcons for export to neighboring countries. During the 11 YOS expedition to Bab al Mandab, we were shown 7 captive falcons of three species. While this 'industry' may generate some income for the trappers and the middlemen who market the falcons, it is unsustainable given the increased pressure on the world's declining falcon populations.

Sustainable exploitation of the Bab al Mandab migration is possible, however. Each year, increasing numbers of tourists visit



Yemen for the sole purpose of watching birds. Many of these free-spending ornithologists would be willing to put up with the austere conditions at Bab al Mandab for the privilege of watching the migratory spectacle there. Although witnessed by few, this spectacle has continued for millennia, and is likely to continue far into the future. Sensibly managed, the annual migration of birders to Bab al Mandab could generate significant revenue for years to come.

David B. Stanton
(YOS Chairman)

Somali Leader Expresses Optimism

Tremendous diplomatic efforts by regional and international powers are being made to find a way out of the crisis in war-torn Somalia. These efforts go through three main channels: Ethiopian-American, European-Kenyan, and Arabic. Coordination among them, however, is quite lacking.

After a two-year impasse, Yemen has played an important role in reactivating the peace process in Somalia. Several faction leaders have visited Sana'a in the last few months as part of an overall attempt to bring national reconciliation. The President and members of the Somali National Salvation Council are currently visiting Yemen to hold talks with Yemeni officials.



Bin Sallam of Yemen Times met Mr. Abdulkadir Mohammed Adam the President of the Somali National Salvation Council, and filed this interview. Excerpts:

Q: What is the purpose of your visit to Yemen?

A: Yemen is the only Arab League country that realized the truth about the current conditions in Somalia. We have come to inform the Yemeni government of the latest developments in the events in Somalia. Yemen has now a lot of experience and extensive knowledge of the situation in our country. The similar tribal structure in both Yemen and Somalia and Yemen's experience in dealing with inter-tribal conflicts have made it possible for the Yemeni government to mediate constructively. We want to learn from Yemen how to tackle our tribal disputes. First and foremost, however, we want to get positive political support and leverage from the Yemeni government during the next conference between factions due to be held in Bisaso.

Q: What are the results, so far, of your meeting with the Yemeni officials?

A: We have had very cordial meetings with the head of the Political Security Office and the Vice-President, Mr. Abdorabbu Mansoor Hadi. We informed them about the tragic and dangerous situation in Somalia for which they expressed their utmost concern. The relations between Yemen and Somalia are historic. There is an appreciable Yemeni expatriate community in Somalia. Also, Yemen is the only Arab country which gives refuge to thousands of Somalis and who allow them to live freely among its citizens. Yemen has played a noble role in trying to solve the conflict among the various Somali factions, whether within the Arab League or other international forums. Yemen is a member of the special committee formed by the Arab League to resolve the Somali issue.

Q: Could you briefly tell us about the Bisaso conference?

A: After leaving Yemen and visiting a number of Arab countries, we'll go to the town of Bisaso in north-eastern Somalia, where the national reconciliation conference will be held at the beginning of November. All Somali factions and tribes are expected to attend. It is hoped that an interim government with a wide popular base will be formed by the participants at the conference.

Q: Do you receive the necessary political and financial support from the Yemeni government?

A: The Yemeni government has made great efforts to gather all the Somali factions together, especially after the departure of the international force. Yemen was the only Arab country to feel the world has abandoned Somalia to face its ominous fate. Our current visit is part of the noble Yemeni attempt to find a resolution that would satisfy all Somalis.

We have applied for political and financial support, and hope that Yemen will act on our behalf in seeking the support of the richer Arab countries. We call on all Arab countries to help us to get out of our tragic predicament and find a long-lasting peace.

Q: Are all Somali tribes and factions represented in the National Salvation Council (NSC)?

A: The NSC consists of 26 factions representing the majority of the Somali people. It has an executive committee and a presidential council, which I head. There are only two factions outside of the NSC - one is headed by Hassan Aided and the other by Aqal. These two secessionist factions represent a very small minority. However, a reconciliatory conference will be held by the end of this month in Cairo to make amends with Aided and Aqal.

Q: Is the NSC recognized and supported by other regional and international powers?

A: The NSC is recognized by the Organization of African Unity, the Arab League, and the Non-Aligned Movement which comprises 113 countries. The UN Security Council, in its last session, has announced that the NSC is the authority and mechanism that will help bring Somalia back to the international community and help the progress of national reconciliation.

Q: How do you view the future government of Somalia?

A: There will be two stages. The first is the transitional stage which will last for three years. The NSC has already endorsed a draft of the provisory constitution which stipulates that participation in authority is done according to one of two ways. An alternately presidential council would be formed whose members successively alternate in power. The other alternative is to have a president with several deputies as well as a legislative council consisting of 83 members and an independent judicial system.

In the second stage, the legislative council will conduct a national census, propose a permanent constitution, and organize free elections to be monitored by international observers and neutral organizations. A new federal system will then come into being.

Q: What kind of obstacles impede reaching a reconciliation

between you and the other factions?

A: We have made all possible efforts through our channels and via some neighboring countries to bring the absent factions into the peace process. Aided was met by Ali Mahdi in Cairo and an agreement was reached. A similar agreement was also made in Sana'a, but Aided always goes back on his word. Aided was supposed to meet the NSC in Addis Ababa to conclude the agreement, but he did not come. We also sent a five-man delegation to Mogadishu two months ago to meet Aided, but he refused to receive them. It seems that Aided sees himself as the strongest man who can control all of Somalia, which is totally false. He is weaker than one can imagine. In fact, just a few days ago on October 9th, an area controlled by Aided was captured by forces loyal to the NSC. It is the area where I come from.

Q: What about the secessionist who call themselves the Republic of the Land of Somalia?

A: The NSC considers Somalia as one entity. There are factions in the NSC which come from northern Somalia where the secessionists claim their republic. These people do not receive any support or recognition. Even the other factions which recognized them at the beginning has withdrawn their support now.

Q: Does Somalia have problems with its neighbors?

A: Apart from the burden imposed by Somali refugees, we do not have any problems with our neighboring countries. All countries unanimously support Somalia's unity and national reconciliation. Ethiopia, for instance, had hosted a national reconciliation conference in April in which the Organization of African Unity recognized the NSC.

The neighboring countries look forward to the day when peace will be established in Somalia and the Somali refugees would return back. Some neighboring countries also complain of the arms flow from Somalia into their territories which can lead to destabilizing their peace and security. So these countries sincerely want peace to prevail in our country.

Q: What about the Somali economy?

A: The Somali economy has deteriorated. As a matter of fact, there is now no such thing as an economy in Somalia. The reason behind that is the absence of a central authority to protect the country's natural resources. The 7-year war has led to the destruction of much of the country's infrastructure, rendering the economy in tatters.

Q: Any last word?

A: It is worth mentioning here that Somalia has one religion, one language, one race, and one culture. The current conflict is due mainly to personal greed and political ambition on part of some faction leaders. The complex tribal structure in Somalia has led to much of Somalia's trouble.

I'd like to thank President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the Yemeni government and people for their support and hospitality. We appreciate Yemen's concern for the troubles in our country. We wish Yemen all

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This is an *OPINION* page.

Every week, a different intellectual writes a *FOCUS* on a pertinent issue!

PV POWER SYSTEMS

An Answer to Yemen's Energy Needs?



By: *Ahmed Zabara*

promote it as environmentally responsive, by participating in energy conservation and pollution mitigation programs.

What are Photovoltaics:

Photovoltaics are solid state semiconductor devices that convert sunlight directly into electricity. They are usually made of silicon with traces of other elements and are first cousins to transistors, LED's and other electronic devices.

A Photovoltaic device (generally called a solar cell) consists of layers or semiconductor materials with different electronic properties. In a typical polycrystalline cell, the bulk of the material is silicon doped with a small quantity of boron to give it a positive or p-type character. A thin layer on the front of the cell is doped with phosphorous to give it a negative or n-type character. The interface between these two layers contains an electric field and is called a junction. Light consists of particles called photons. When light hits the solar cell, some of the photons are absorbed in the region of the junction, freeing electrons in the silicon crystal. If the photons have enough energy, the electrons will be able to overcome the electric field at the junction and are free to move through the

external circuit they give up their energy as useful work (turning motors, lighting lamps, etc...) and return to the solar cell.

Thus, virtually any electric power need can be met by an appropriate designed PV power system. This includes power for lighting, pumping, refrigeration, radio transmission, etc. The only limitation is the cost of the equipment and occasionally the size of the PV array. The PV process is completely solid state and self-contained. There are no moving parts and no materials are consumed or emitted.

Is PV Difficult to Use?

In a word, no. Although making PV cells and modules requires advanced technology, they are very simple to use. PV modules are generally low voltage DC devices (although arrays of PV modules can be wired for higher voltages) with no moving or wearing parts. Once installed, a PV array generally requires no maintenance other than an occasional cleaning. Most PV systems do contain storage batteries which do require some watering and maintenance similar to the battery in a car.

The Environmental Edge

Photovoltaics are probably the most benign method of power generation known today. They are silent, produce no emission,

and no fuel (other than sunlight) is required. The production of photovoltaics, of course, varies among manufactures. Some make extensive use of recycled materials and even use wastes from other industries as raw materials. While some hazardous materials (primarily strong inorganic acids and bases) are used in solar cell manufacturing, these substances are not released into the environment.

What Laws Cover PV Use?

While the laws of different countries vary, PV systems are generally subject to the same electrical, building, and fire safety codes which govern the installation of electrical wiring and equipment in residential, commercial and industrial buildings. In the Republic of Yemen, there is no specific law or regulation governing PV use. However, it is safe to say that the authorities are generally supportive of this industry and application.

Is PV Economical?

It is common knowledge that the Republic of Yemen has a shortage of electric supply. This explains the regulated black-outs. In addition, expanding the grid system to cover small remote villages scattered all over the landscape is a costly endeavor which will not see light in the near future. Therefore, PV offers an alternative. Over 6 million people in Yemen have no access to electricity, today. For these people, PV is probably the most economical power source. In addition, as the price per kilowatt of electricity rises, many city dwellers and small commercial users frustrated by black-outs, may find it more and more attractive to consider PV systems. Therefore, I expect PV users to grow rapidly.

Even at a worldwide level, PV has started to compete with traditional power sources even in countries with extensive electrical infrastructures. It is expected that by the turn of the century, PV will be economically viable in a number of grid-connected applications.

The Lost Decade?

Solar energy seemed popular about fifteen years ago, then disappeared. What happened? The oil crises of the 1970's promoted an intense interest in finding alternative sources. At that time, oil was expensive (\$40/barrel) and the Western governments were supporting PV and other alternative energy sources. This resulted in substantial investment and growth in the PV industry and dramatic growth in the solar thermal industry. By the mid 1980's however, in spite of these factors there was still some reserve about using solar energy. Oil was cheap, falling to as low as \$10/barrel, at some stage. Budgetary deficits in Western governments forced the slashing of R&D funding. The number of systems was dramatically reduced and the industry shrank accordingly - 90% of the solar thermal manufacturers went out of business.

The net effect was a flat period for PV. During the 1980's, the PV industry made dramatic cost improvements. PV modules today cost a fraction of what they sold for ten years ago. They also developed a variety of economic applications.

At the same time, the 1990's brought a renewed awareness of the environmental impact of energy production. These factors have

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combined to create an expanding market for PV and a greater interest in the technology.

Does PV Work in Cloudy weather?

The Republic of Yemen is endowed with plenty of sunshine, thus making it ideal for solar energy generation. Even in cloudy weather, PVs do generate electricity, although their output is diminished. In general the output varies linearly down to about 10% of the normal full sunlight intensity. Since flat plate PVs respond to a 180° window, they do not need direct sun and can even generate 50-70% of their rated output under a bright overcast.

What Are PV Modules?

Although a PV system can be as simple as a module and supply power to equipment such as a direct driven fans, most PV systems are designed to supply power whenever it is needed and so must include batteries to store the energy generated by the PV array. Systems with batteries also need electronic devices to control their charging or limit the discharging of the batteries. Since PVs and batteries are inherently DC devices, larger systems usually include DC/AC converters to supply AC power in standard voltages and frequencies. This enables the use of standard appliances in the system. On the electrical side, protective devices such as diode fuses, circuit breakers, safety switches and grounds are required to meet electric code safety standards. In general, PV systems also require mounting hardware to support and elevate the PV modules and wiring to connect the PV modules and other components together.

Is PV Effective for Residential Use?

This is really a matter of the application. In general, the PV system can supply energy to all kinds of household uses, ranging from water heating, to appliances, to cooling/warming temperature.

In situations where there is no grid supplied electricity in the home (remote villages, etc.), PV can be used for most common electrical needs.

PV System Duration:

In general, the PV modules are the longest lived component of a PV system. Top quality modules are designed to last at least 20. They are designed to withstand all of environmental hazards including Arctic cold, desert heat, tropical humidity, winds in excess of 125 mph (200kph), and 1 inch (25mm) hail at terminal velocity.

Batteries will last about 5 years, although smaller sealed units will typically last 3 years. Automotive batteries are poorly matched to the characteristics of PV systems and will generally only last 12 to 18 months in PV service.

In any event, this will depend on the maintenance guarantees provided by the agency.

What Things to Look for when Purchasing a PV Module?

An informed buyer will look at a number of items when buying a PV module. First, ask the seller what outside agencies have tested, qualified, or otherwise approved the module.

Next check out the module. Pick it up. Does it have a solid feel? Or does the frame easily twist.

Look at the solar cells. Are they perilously close to the module frame (which can lead to electrical breakdown and premature failure)? Are the module bus bars open and well isolated or are they folded behind the cells where they can cause electrical shorts or delimitation?

Conclusion:

I want to come back to the original point. The Republic of Yemen has an energy shortage which is likely to remain with us for some time. Buying small generators that make all kinds of noise and break down so fast is not the answer. Installing giant batteries fed from the electric grid is not the answer either. I believe tapping the warmth of the sun is the answer. We have plenty of it. It is free and is a good environmental choice.

Go for it.

Ahmed Zabara sells PVs for a living.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Nurse Yemeni Nationals

A male nurse is required for our Medical Facility in Masila Block, Hadramout. Successful candidates will be working on a rotation of 56 days on / 28 days off.

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- Prepare and submit to the Doctor the appropriate medical records and medical reports. Assist the doctor in preparation of medical reports.
- Maintain a pharmacy record book with current stock levels available for reference at all times.
- Assist with health education programs as appropriate e. g. sanitation, hygiene etc.
- Assist with relevant occupational health and safety training e. g. First Aid, CPR education etc.
- Assist with the monitoring of occupational health matters with regard to workplace, environment and camp area hazards e. g. food handlers, water supplies, kitchen and other inspections.
- Be ready and willing at all times to perform all medical, clinical and the supportive administration as required by the Doctor.

Minimum Qualifications and Professional Experience:

- Certified Registered Nurse or equivalent.
- Diploma of nursing with at least 3 years qualification from a recognized nursing institute.
- At least 5 years experience in isolated situations.
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- Must be fluent in both Arabic and English.

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Researchers & Practitioners Chart the Course for Tourism

Investing in Tourism

Ismail Al-Ghabiry,
Yemen Times

Organized by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a symposium on the ways and means to "Encourage Investments in Tourism" was recently held in Sanaa. The symposium was attended by tour and travel agents, as well as representatives of the business community. Three following major papers were submitted and discussed in the symposium.

1. The Importance of Tourism

The first paper highlighted the importance of tourism, which it described as an ever expanding and renewable industry. The revenue from tourism during 1995 was \$50 million, i.e., 1.5% of the GDP or 2.5% of the total export revenue of the country. If the oil revenue is excluded, then tourism would account for 30% of exports. The tourism revenue rose by 10% in 1996.

Tourism is a national resource that will never be exhausted. It is also a crucial factor in developing the necessary infrastructure and encouraging the expansion of traditional handicrafts, folklore activities, cottage industry, etc.

2. Elements of Tourism in Yemen

The second paper addressed the factors that make tourism viable in Yemen. It gave the following factors as conducive to tourism growth:

- * An ancient history and a culture rich in folklore.
 - * The climatic and topographical variety.
 - * The 2000-km long coastal line.
 - * More than 112 islands and islets in the Red and Arabian seas.
 - * The availability of natural mineral and sulfuric waters.
- It is an integrated economic, cultural and social activity.
- * The unique architecture, exotic archeology and traditional handicrafts.



The paper warned that tourism is an integrated economic activity that requires cooperation among many sectors - travel, hotel, food, security, immigration, municipal, etc. It also pointed to the need for more active and effective government involvement. It especially called for investments in the road network. The internal roads in Yemen extend to a total length of 69,000 km. Only 12% of these roads are asphalted, 24% are just-paved, and the rest are just leveled. There are only two international roads connecting Yemen to Saudi Arabia and Oman respectively.

Another field is the airports and harbors. There are 5 international airports (Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah and Mukalla) and 12 local airports and 3 major sea ports (Hodeida, Aden and Mukalla).

There is also need for government investments in electricity, telephone lines, postal services, etc. Finally it pointed to the need for laws to regulate and govern the tourism sector.

3. Opportunities for Investment

The third presentation was on the opportunities to invest in the development of the tourism services, resorts and establishments. According to the 1996 statistics, there are 229 hotels, 126 travel agencies, 292 restaurants, 289 cafeterias, 327 cafes, 34 parks, and 3 rest houses registered with the authorities in Yemen. The development and expansion of these services and utilities is open for the private sector. The government has already privatized 29 out of 39 tourist establishments designated for privatization by the end of 1996. This means that there is a big space for private investment.

Recommendations

Many of the participants thought that the security issue was a bottleneck in the growth of this sector. The repeated kidnapping of foreigners was mentioned time and again as a practice giving the country a bad name. They called on the state authorities to firmly deal with this matter. At the end of the deliberations, the participants in the symposium recommended the following:

- 1- The Ministry of Culture and Tourism should plan together with the relevant bodies to raise awareness of the importance of tourism among the various sectors of society.
- 2- Protecting and preserving Yemen's historical and cultural heritage and environment.
- 3- The media must take part in reviving the Yemeni folkloric heritage. Special festivals and carnivals need to be organized as tourist attractions on a regular basis.
- 4- Government bodies must work to facilitate the progress of investments in tourism sector.
- 5- Castles, fortresses and other historical sites must be protected and renovated.
- 6- Security and stability are vital for attracting investments and tourists.
- 7- The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the General Tourism Authority, the Yemeni Society for Travel and Tourism Agencies, and the chambers of commerce must all cooperate in organizing awareness-raising campaigns on the importance of tourism.
- 8- Visa and entry procedures for foreign tourists through all air, sea, and land entry points must be simplified.
- 9- The movement and transportation of foreign tourists within the country must be facilitated, and all possible security precautions taken.
- 10- Visa and transit fees must be reviewed and reduced.
- 11- Improving the infrastructure.
- 12- Well-developed tourism transportation routes to and from airports should be established.
- 13- National and local investors should be called upon to participate in developing the tourism sector.

Abdullah Shamsan:

"The most important thing for investments is economic stability."

Mr. Abdullah Abdussalam Shamsan is the general director of the National Beverage Company - Canada Dry. Shamsan, 28, was born in Taiz and received his higher education in the USA.

Bin Sallam of Yemen Times met Mr. Shamsan and filed this interview.

Q: How do you evaluate the commercial experience of the Shamsan and Sons Group of Companies?

A: Thanks to the government's help and despite the competition that face a soft-drinks company in Yemen, Shamsan's commercial experience is very successful. The problems we face at the moment are due to the soft drinks imported into Yemen, especially from Saudi Arabia. These products are flooding the market.

Q: Tests have shown that these products are below the required standards. How come they provide a strong competition to you products?

A: The soft drinks are shipped from Saudi Arabia in ordinary, unrefrigerated trucks. The sun's heat is bound to turn them bad. The products are also held up for some time at the customs point making some of them expire.

Q: Do you market all that is produced per day? Do you operate the factory at full capacity?

A: We market all that is produced, but we use about 50 to 60% of the factory's capacity. There is some competition from local and foreign products.

Q: There are rumors that the Canada Dry company has problems with some tribes. Is this true?

A: We face many problems, but we try to solve them in peaceful

and amicable ways. The reason for the dispute is that they ask for a higher rent and threaten to close the factory for the silliest of reasons. Sometimes it is difficult to deal with them, so we just tell them to do as they please and inform the authorities.

Q: Have the authorities not been able to solve these disputes?

A: The security authority is very helpful, but they try to avoid a direct conflict. A day's stoppage costs us million of riyals so we try to solve all problems peacefully.

Q: But for how long will this state of affairs go on?

A: The only solution is for the government to support locally produced good, as much as possible.

Q: What are the future projects for the Shamsan Group of Companies?

A: There are 2 or 3 projects being studied currently. There is a possibility that a new factory will be Aden or do an integrated production in Sana'a. We'll receive the studies within 2 months and decide accordingly. It is necessary to study the area and the people's conditions. The current factory area was chosen for the availability of water which is necessary for the beverage industry. Ours used to be the only factory in the area.

Q: How do you evaluate the



atmosphere for investment in Yemen?

A: I believe that investment in Yemen has a bright future, provided that ample protection is provided by the state. I am not saying that there is no protection, but there must be more. Upon facing the problems we face, a non-Yemeni investor would just turn back and go.

Q: How do you explain that many Arab and foreign investors are staying away from Yemen?

A: Most of the Arab and foreign investors I met are quite optimistic regarding investment opportunities. They may face some difficulties at the beginning, but they remain optimistic. All routine problems can be solved.

Q: What can the state do to reduce bureaucracy?

A: The most important thing is peace and security.

Q: Any last comment?

A: We hope that the government will continue helping and encouraging investment projects and protecting the national industry.

KPMG AND ERNST & YOUNG TO COMBINE

In a move designed to anticipate developments in the Global marketplace in the next century, KPMG and Ernst & Young announced jointly today that they have agreed to combine their world-wide practices.

In a statement, Ernst & Young International chairman, Phillip A Laskawy and KPMG International chairman Colin Sharman, said "The combining of KPMG and E&Y organizations world-wide will provide us with a significantly increased capability around the world to compete more effectively in the markets of the next century.

As our clients expand into new markets they expect us to have the global reach and resources to provide them the specialized expertise they need", said Laskawy. "We will now have significantly more service capabilities and people in key industry segments, function areas and geographic markets". "The marketplace is intensely competitive and we intend to excel in deploying the best technology, knowledge, functional services, and people to meet the evolving needs of our clients", added Sharman. "The investment efficiencies and financial resources which will result from the combination will enable our firm to develop emerging markets more quickly, and invest at a fast pace in technology and new services".

"We are looking to the future and combining to maintain a competitive edge in attracting the best and brightest people who can continue to provide our clients with the highest level of satisfaction" Laskawy continued. "The combination is a great fit for both firms in terms of people and cultures". "We share a dedication to our people", added Sharman. "We are committed to providing them the greatest career opportunities possible and the combination will do this".

The international executive committees of both firms have endorsed the proposed combination in principle, and the individual member firms will be beginning detailed discussions with a view to combinations in individual territories. It is anticipated this process will be complete by early 1998.

Colin Sharman will be chairman and Mike Henning will be CEO of the international firm and the headquarters office will be in Amsterdam. The combined organization world-wide will have fiscal 1997 fees in excess of US\$ 18 billion and 163,000 people.

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The Tragedy of Medical Practice in Yemen

A Tragic Situation

The current bad conditions of the medical profession can be traced back to following factors.

- 1- The law governing medical practices is not observed by any of the concerned authorities.
- 2- Unqualified persons have opened small clinics where they administer injections and dress wounds.
- 3- Many medical assistants, technicians, and nurses disguised as doctors, deceive many patients.
- 4- Several foreigners come under many assumed titles, and are allowed to practice medicine without the slightest checking of their credentials.
- 5- Under the guise of herbal medicine, many charlatans often claim to be able to cure enumerable ailments. No medical body exists to control these people.
- 6- Private hospitals and medical centers are being established without any governing regulations. Many rich lay persons today now open private hospitals as an investment, irrespective of any qualification criteria.
- 7- There is a marked lack of supervision and restriction on the distribution and sale of poisonous or sedative drugs.
- 8- State-owned hospitals are not up to standard, either.
- 9- Yemeni doctors are not treated as well as their foreign counterparts working in Yemen. They suffer from a lot of neglect, and are very measly paid as compared to the non-Yemeni doctors.

10- Forensic medicine is almost non-existent.

General Practice

General practitioners often work in public and private hospitals without the supervision of specialists, especially during night duty. This negligence, on part of the hospital's management may lead to unfortunate, and sometimes lethal consequences as had occurred in an appendicitis patient who was given a tranquilizer to relieve his pain. This case was discovered just in time, as his inflammation was about to turn into peritonitis. He was taken to a private hospital to undergo emergency surgery. Some deaths occur which could have been prevented.

Yemen should follow the example of other countries where new medical graduates are obliged to spend two years of internship under the supervision of specialist doctors. Specialist doctors should also be present in rural health centers to supervise the work of GPs. Richer inhabitants go to private hospitals in the nearest town. Matters are sometimes left in the hands of the medical orderly, GPs would also be absent. Senior doctors should regularly visit rural health centers. Volunteering for humanitarian causes should also be considered.

Hospital mismanagement is usually due to incompetent doctors appointed without any

criteria. Young and inexperienced doctors often manage badly run hospitals. State hospitals are established with scant regard to the availability, or otherwise, of the necessary qualified cadres.

The College of Medicine

The College of Medicine in Sana'a University is probably the only college in the world where there is no forensic medicine. Worse still, there are still posts for human and pathological anatomy. Foreign scholarships for Yemeni medical graduates are very few. Therefore the country lacks the necessary qualified specialists making it dependent on foreign doctors.

Treatment Abroad

The special medical committees, which determine the eligibility of patients to seek medical help abroad are also incompetent. Sick people wishing to take advantage of the limited free health services allocated for Yemeni citizens in friendly countries, face many obstacles. An example of the committee inefficiency is a recent case of considering a 15-year-old heart patient. The work of these committees is riddled with all sorts of favoritism, resulting in denying many emergency patients the right to go abroad for their medical treatment.

By:

Dr. Ahmed Abdulaziz Nouman

Free Reconstructive Surgery

The Dutch Interplast organization carries out medical aid programs in developing countries. People suffering from burns and patients with cleft lips and palates as well as congenital abnormalities of the

countries where this specialization does not yet exist," said Dr. Piet van den Akker the Manager of Nedcare - the visit-organizing body. Nedcare Medical Desk in Amsterdam

takes care of patients coming from the Middle East for medical treatment in Holland. Dr. Akker said that his knowledge of the situation in Yemen made him "try hard for about a year to convince the Interplast team to come to this country." He added, "the

ducted 75 surgeries during the first week of its stay in Yemen. "We aim to do a similar number of operations during the second and final week of the visit," announced Dr. Akker.

Professor Rein E. Zeeman - Interplast Chairman - said, "qualifications to do major neck and head surgeries are lacking in Yemen, so we try to help in this field as much as we can." In addition to the operations which are attended by Yemeni doctors, Prof. Zeeman and his two other colleagues - Prof. Jong and Prof. Bos - delivered a number of valuable lectures to their Yemeni colleagues. "Through attending operation theaters and the lectures given, Yemeni doctors can pick up things from us and use them in the future," indicated Prof. Zeeman.

On the facilities and equipment available in Yemeni hospitals, Dr. Zeeman commented, "the equipment here are better than in many other developing countries."

In concluding, Prof. Zeeman said; "Interplast is and remains a matter for team work. The board and volunteers hope that they continue to count on your help and assistance in the future. It is only by working together that we can ensure that Interplast can go on performing operations."



hands, legs, and genitals are operated on by Dutch plastic surgeons, anesthetists and operating theater assistants.

The operations are carried out in close cooperation with the local doctors, who also participate in all Interplast out-patient clinics and operations. Thus, they acquire a short but through training in a number of plastic surgery and anesthesia techniques. The Interplast surgeons volunteer their services during their vacation time. A total of 10 teams of Interplast plastic surgeons were sent out on missions in 1995/96 to Uganda, Ghana, Vietnam, and Lebanon.

"In this manner, Interplast aims to create a worldwide network, with the attendant objective of introducing reconstructive surgery in

Dutch Embassy, KLM, and the Ministry of Public Health in



Yemen all cooperated in facilitating the Interplast visit."

Consisting of 3 surgeons, one anesthetist, one operation assistant, and Dr. Akker the coordinator, the Interplast team con-



Universal signs GSA agreement with Oman Air



Universal is pleased to announce that it has successfully finalized a General Sales Agency agreement with Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman.

During a visit to Muscat in early October, Mr. Omar M. Omar, Managing Director of Universal formally signed the GSA agreement with Mr. Saud Al Raisy, Assistant General Manager of Oman Air.

"We are very pleased with this new airline agreement which further extends our portfolio and will enable us to offer our clients even more choice and flexibility for their travel needs" said Omar.

Oman Air operates flights from Muscat's Seeb International airport to a number of destinations in the sub-continent, daily flights to Dubai and bi-weekly flights to Cairo, all on Airbus A 320 aircraft. The airline also runs several domestic routes within the Sultanate.

"This agreement comes about at a time where the ties between Yemen and Oman are growing closer and our hopes are high that Oman Air will soon connect Muscat with Sana'a and other Yemeni cities" added Omar.

"This would allow foreign tourists to conveniently visit two countries who have a lot in common and also develop business and brotherly relations between the Omani and Yemeni people."

Universal is Yemen's No. 1 travel agency network 17 outlets and 9 airline GSA Agencies including American Airlines, British Airways, Royal Jordanian and Thai. It is one of the fastest growing companies in the country's tourism industry and the leading inbound tour operator. Investing in Yemen's future, Universal owns and runs eight three to five star hotel properties across the country.

Impact of Structural Adjustment on Poverty Alleviation Programs



Traditional economic development policies, filled with shortcomings at many levels, led to human sufferings and tragedies. Presently more than a billion people worldwide live in a state of abject poverty. In fact, the World Bank estimates that if the current trends continue, the number of poor people in the developing nations alone could explode up to 2000 million by the end of the century.

Poverty emerged due to increased foreign borrowing, debt trap pressures, lack of social justices, especially in the distribution of development benefits. Even though the GDP of a country increased, the number of jobs available is decreased. Thus, this type of growth is described as "jobless growth". This growth widens the gap between the rich population poor at all levels, nationally and internationally.

In order to overcome the foreign debt and then the social debt (what countries owe their own people), the IMF and World Bank assisted these countries by proposing curative measures called "Economic and Social Adjustment Programs." The World Bank emphasized that poverty reduction is consistent with true and effective adjustments. The real wealth of a country, however, lies in the quality of its manpower, not in its land and minerals. Investing in human capital by making people healthy, educated, and equal a nation can become prosperous in a sustainable manner.

Effect of Structural Adjustments:

During the implementation of economic and structural adjustments, a new sort of poverty, "new poor," will be created. This is constituted mostly by the vulnerable groups that bear the brunt of these adjustments. The new poor will swell up the ranks of the structural or "chronic" poor - those whose overall GDP did not rise up with economic growth.

It the short and medium terms, the economic adjustment programs have an adverse effect on the poorest group. They bear a disproportionate share of the adjustments costs. This aggravates the living conditions of the larger sectors of the population, spreads unemployment, enlarges income disparities, and lowers the general purchasing power. These negative impacts will lead to poor economic growth, since economic adjustment programmers focus mainly on stabilization measures that improves fiscal, financial and monetary situations only.

Structural adjustment programs should be enforced and implemented quickly with the main aim of improving the delivery of basic social services. At the same time, they should be used as a better mechanism to reach the poorest members of the community quickly, after identifying fairly the affected sectors of society.

In order to reduce the above mentioned short-term negative impacts, the IMF & WB introduced the so-called relief packages or corrective measures such as the Social Safety Net. It consisted mainly of the Social Investment Funds (SIF), Emergency employment programs and the National Program to Limit Poverty as long-term strategies within the framework of national action plans or the so called National Program Framework (NFP).

All the above-mentioned relief packages should be managed comprehensively and in a sustainable manner. The Social Investment or Development Fund (SIF), if managed appropriately, could play a great role in reducing the adverse effects of structural adjustments. The SIF or SDF should be created under a separate and independent Board or Council. The SIF focuses mainly on easing the impacts on the poor. However, this kind of fund requires financial and technical assistance from donors, provided that it is implemented and managed according to the established and designed strategies and objectives.

The main motivating objective of the creation of SIF is mainly to mitigate the short-term impact of adjustment policies with emphasis on mitigating the

adjustment cost for the poor, especially where the programs are strong. However, it is necessary to well address the issues before adopting any SIF mechanisms and design. Such design issues include the following:-

- Rules for targeting the most vulnerable group.
- Ensuring that the vulnerable group receives the allocated assistance, especially where they are unable to voice their demand.
- How to insulate the program's board of directors from political pressures.
- Identification of the role of line ministries is necessary.
- Who will identify the most urgent needs and the best solutions?
- Role of local communities and NGOs on identifying the most needed projects, and how to insulate the NGOs from the effects of the most vocal communities, elites and the better educated.

Accordingly, the SIF should not be viewed as an executive agency. This will help to avoid duplicating functions of line ministries. The SIF should collaborate with the line agencies as well coordinate the solution of problems that arise during the implementation period.

Lessons learnt in other developing countries indicate that the SIF can be a successful mechanism for mitigating short-term impacts as well as to alleviate structural poverty. This could be achieved through the adequate financing, appraising and supervising small-scale projects. However, there are no proven records of social program implementation, cost recoverability and project executions. Hence, the SIF should not focus only on productive projects rather than as a vehicle of social welfare transfers, just because it is financed through loans rather than grants. Therefore it is preferable that the SIF should be provided as grant or, by most, as a soft loan. Thus, it is advisable that the SIF should not be used to finance credit schemes only. The recovery of loans can be time consuming and requires a lot of staff, and above all will not help to reduce poverty.

In fact, many other countries preferred adopting the mechanism of creating an "Emergency Social Fund

(ESF). The ESF is used to implement emergency employment schemes, to establish day-care centers, implement nutrition programs and provide school lunches.

These centers enabled the poor to find work or to create new jobs for these who lost their job due to the adopted adjustments. It is important to enforce an appropriate over-all supervision scheme in the form of norms, guidelines, monitoring and auditing to ensure that funds go to the most needy. From the above outlined issues it is clear that the structural adjustments could play a major role in helping both the structural and the new poor, provided that the social services are delivered in an appropriately fast and equitable manner. Accordingly, there is an urgent necessity to formulate an integrated and comprehensive social adjustment plan to reduce the adverse impacts or effects as has been emphasized in the National Action Plan for Poverty Eradication. This should be viewed within the National Planning framework that gives priority to Social Development Sectors.

By: **Abdulkadir M. Hassan Al-Ariqi**
Environmental / Development Consultant

نصف اجمل التهاني واطيب التبريكات للشباب الخلق محمد سعيد فاضل الكبودي بمناسبة المولود البكر الذي اسماه **عبد** الف مبروك المهنؤون الوالد سعيد فاضل الكبودي، عبدالله سعيد فاضل الكبودي، علي سعيد فاضل الكبودي، محمد حيدر الكبودي، سعد فاضل الكبودي، سعيد علاو

نهني وبنبارك للاح غانم عبدالله احمد غانم بمناسبة التفوق في دورة اللغة الانجليزية بالمعهد البريطاني بنسبة ٩٦٪. متمنين له دوام التوفيق. المهنؤون الكابتن/ ناصر الطويلي، يوسف الحيمي

Flowers wither, chocolates are eaten, words float away into the air: oft forgotten even when spoken from the heart.



Taj Sheba Saluted

The Taj Sheba Hotel in Sanaa is a favorite venue for top diplomats and members of the business community to meet and hold various successful functions and receptions. Conferences, national and regional, are often hosted by the Hotel, very much to the delight of the participants. The highly positive feedback by many satisfied customers attests to the top-quality services provided by the Taj Sheba.

The recent visit by the Duke of Gloucester was another occasion when the Taj Sheba helped in making a visit a success. The Hotel's management had yet again exceeded itself. As a gesture of appreciation, the British Embassy presented to the management and staff of Taj Sheba a long-lasting token of its sincere appreciation. A token that all who work within the Hotel can see and cherish.

In a ceremony held on Tuesday, October 21st and attended by the new British Ambassador to Yemen, H.E. Mr Victor Henderson and his wife, a cup was presented to the Taj



Sheba Hotel for its exceptional efforts not only for the Duke of Gloucester's visit, but also for past visits and celebrations. According to Mr. Henderson, and building on the organizational successes of the past, the British Embassy is looking forward to more cooperation with the Taj Sheba Hotel.

"It is very delightful to have our efforts appreciated so wonderfully," said a jubilant Mr. Vijay Albuquerque, the Taj's General Manager. He added, "all the Hotel's staff are very happy to have their hard work recognized in this beautiful way."

"The winners' golden cup is presented to the Taj Sheba management and staff; from the car park attendants to room service, waiters, receptionists and to all who are working in the Hotel," announced Mr. David Pearce, the Charge d' Affairs at the British Embassy in Sanaa.



From left: Mr. David Pearce (deputy head of mission - British embassy), Mrs Hendersons', HE Mr. Henderson (new British ambassador), Mr. Vijay Albuquerque (GM Taj Sheba)

The award-presenting ceremony was also attended by several of the leading figures of Sanaa's society, members of the diplomatic corp, and connoisseurs of the finer things in life.

A Woman's Hair is Her Crown: Yemeni Female Hair Stylists on the Increase

Doaa Abdulqader,
Yemen Times



Hair dressing requires good taste and an artistic bent. Several Yemeni females have started to work as hairdressers, whether in their own salons or for others. This profession is being gradually accepted by society. It is no longer considered as something shameful which used to be done by the immediate female family members. Many of the present hairdressers and beauticians started their profession as a hobby, helping to style the hair of their immediate family members. Few have qualifications from recognized institutes. One of the pioneers of this profession is Mrs. Aida Hassan. She was trained at the Harriet Hubbard Ayer, at the Christine Shaw of Bond Street, and at Mary Quant.

The hobby generally grows into a full blown profession. In order to be wholly independent, many of the hairdressers open their own salons. Lack of financial resources is usually overcome by borrowing the needed money and opening the salon from home so as to

avoid the expenses of paying rent and taxes. "Opening and equipping my salon had cost me around YR 300,000, including obtaining the necessary trade license," said Leena, a hair stylist in Sanaa.

Leena, 25 years old with a secondary-school certificate, works on her own and trains other girls to become hair dressers. "I teach them to do fashionable hair styles, apply make-up, hair dying, and remove facial hair, etc. They go then to work in other salons or open their own."

An average female hair cut nowadays costs about YR 300.



The cost of hair dying, on the other hand, depends on the length of a female's hair and the effort that goes into the process. "We have to charge for the cost of the rather expensive imported hair dyes," said Leena.

The work of a hairdresser also involves preparing brides for their wedding night. An average amount of YR 5000 is charged for hair stylizing, general make-up, and the hiring of the wedding dress. An additional amount of YR 1,500 is charged for intricate henna designs on the back of the hands top of the feet and just smeared on the soles of the feet. "On average, I receive five or six clients a day, but the number increases during the summer vacation when the weddings generally increase and people travel abroad where some Yemeni women shed their head covering."

How do women and girls choose their hair styles and colors? "It depends on their educational level and social status. Some want to emulate a particular Arab

female TV announcer or singer, etc., others just don't know what is suitable for them. I have to choose the hair style most appropriate for their faces and general appearance. However, all of them, young and old, want what is most fashionable nowadays. Dying their hair bronze, blonde, or a mixing of 3 colors are the favorites of many women." Not all women, though, are easily satisfied with the way they look. It is a woman's prerogative to change her mind. But some women are more fickle than others. "Some women demand a change of hair style shortly after doing the one they chose in the first place. This is unavoidable, I guess. We have to live with it."

Up until very recently, this profession was limited to non-Yemeni women residing in this country. However, the changing social view allows an increasing number of Yemeni women to become hair stylists.



Yemeni Tunes of Passion

Yemeni Tunes of Passion is the first published collection of poetry by Monira Al-Deilami. Raised in a family of religious and literature scholars, Monira started writing poetry at the age of 9. She wrote prolifically during the '70s. Her poems were published by Yemeni, Arab and foreign magazines and newspapers.

She was educated in Aden, Sanaa, graduating with a degree in law from the Bin Aknoon University in Algeria. Married to a diplomat, she traveled widely in Arab and foreign countries, enabling her to have a diverse cultural background. Monira recited her poems in various countries such as the UAE, France, Oman, and Algeria.

Her modern poetry, free from the restrictions of rhyme and scale, and other writings have touched the essential women's issues in Yemen. "Writing about women and the family is writing about the part that represents the whole," said Monira. Being an educated wife and mother of six grown children, Monira has the capacity to write from the heart.

Arab critics like to use the phrase "women's literature" to describe what is written by women. "From my humble point of view, there is no separate literature for men and women. What is created by both, whether it

be poetry, music, painting, etc., is for all mankind."

In her eponymous poem, Monira intensifies a whole range of angry human feelings. It is an anger directed towards the deliberate distortion of sensitive human affections by the modern era. Describing life in Paris, in which Monira lived for quite a while, she said in her poem *Yemeni Tunes of Passion*:
extravagance,
perfume, tobacco, and alcohol

women, and irrational freedom
naked legs
scents of perfume
on cheap bodies
women... and hounds
men running
practical and realistic men
a high tower
the Arch of Triumph...
museums... etc
and I am here
here alone
still the bedouin
.....

Yemen's famous poet Al-Baradouni said, "Monira is a ebullient peace of nature that becomes angry, smiles, softens to point of dissolving, and become cruel to the point of emitting lightning. She is affectionate in her movement and stillness, reticence and talk, and sighing and fluttering."

"The disproportionate impact of a world, on whose rock where the beautiful relationships were destroyed, on the daughter of an Arab / Muslim Orient has created these conscience shaking and thought provoking poetic writings," said the Yemeni poet and writer Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqilil about Monira's *Yemeni Tunes of Passion*. He further said, "it is so beautiful that such a disproportionate impact would produce such enchanting and peaceful words."



CONDOLENCES

We are profoundly shocked and saddened to learn of the tragic death of Roy Stoves the Director of Urban Primary Health Care Program in Hodeidah. Roy Stoves devoted himself to the development of Yemen as a whole. He dedicated most of his own time in organizing and raising funds for our society and other NGOs.

We would like to send our condolences and sorrow to his family, relatives and friends and the British and Dutch Embassies for the great loss.

From
The cooperative society of DUBA Alkhareg
Hodeidah, Yemen
الجمعية الخيرية لتعاون دبع الخارج

THE DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES

As you might imagine, many hundreds of thousands of people around the world have, since the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, sent letters of condolence and presents to The Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry at St James's Palace in London. The volume of correspondence has been quite overwhelming and, whilst The Prince of Wales has ensured that as many as possible of the more than 300,000 letters have been answered, this will not be possible in every case.

It is with this mind that The Prince of Wales and the young Princes have asked me to make known to the people of Yemen their deep appreciation of the very kind thoughts and tremendous generosity which they have shown in the many letters they have written and the gifts they have sent. The Prince of Wales and his sons have been enormously touched by the public support shown to them all around the world, and have taken great strength from it.

The Prince of Wales and his sons would like, through me, to say thank you, and to pass on the everybody who wrote to them their heartfelt best wishes, and to assure them that every letter has been read and each one gratefully received.

VACANCIES

The German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) requires for one of its projects in Sana'a:

Translator / Interpreter

Applicants should meet the following conditions:

- be of Yemen nationality
- university degree from an English speaking country, preferably a degree in English language / literature
- minimum of 7 years professional experience, English / Arabic / English translation / interpretation
- familiarity with highly specialized economic / computer science terms both in English and Arabic
- knowledge in computer softwares (Excel and Word)
- good interpersonal skills

Senior Secretary / Administrative Assistant

Applicants should meet the following conditions:

- be of Yemeni nationality
- have a wide range of secretarial support experience, typing in both English & Arabic, including translation
- good knowledge of office management including basic accounting
- familiar with computer softwares (Excel and Word)
- excellent written and oral communication skills in Arabic and English
- personal initiative and easy going
- minimum of 5 years working experience

Applications are to be submitted both in English and Arabic

prior to 05 November, 1997 to:
Deputy Director
GTZ Office Sana'a
P. O. Box 692

Pakistan Devalues Rupee by Over 8 %

Pakistan devalued its rupee by 8.71 per cent against the dollar to boost exports and fulfill International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditions for loans. The country's central bank, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), fixed the new exchange rate at 44.05 rupees to the dollar, up from 40.52.

The devaluation triggered a rush for the dollar on the open market, as the price of the dollar shot up to 44.25 rupees. It promptly gave a boost to trading at the country's main bourse, Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE), but there was mixed reaction from business leaders, with several doubting the move would help the economy. Dealers said the KSE 100-Index surged by 61.50 points to 1973.85.

The devaluation was a major item in the economic reforms agreed by the Pakistan government with the IMF. Pakistan is seeking 1.6 billion dollars in loans from the IMF over three years to shore up its reserves. Foreign investors will now come to the stock market in a big way as devaluation was the only condition left for obtaining 1.6 billion dollars under IMF's Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility.

Officials said exporters had generally been demanding the devaluation, which is the fifth adjustment in the rupee value since April. After recent downward adjustment of European currencies against the greenback, exports to Europe have been affected, they said.

Dubai's Gold Imports Maintain Growth

Dubai's gold imports in September maintained their growth and remained above the new psychological barrier of 40 tons per month at 45.364 tons. Though the September figure is the lowest so far in 1997, it is still about 10 tons more than the highest monthly import figure for 1996. While last year's monthly gold imports moved in the 20 to 40 tons range, this year they have been fluctuating in the 40 to 60 tons a month band.

Imports of gold from January to September totaled 473.585 tons, according to figures from the statistics section of Dubai Customs. This compares with 254.595 tons in the same period last year. On a year to year basis, this year's import figure reflects an increase of 86 per cent over that of 1996. On the world bullion markets, prices have been supported by physical buying around current levels of \$324 to the ounce after the market came back from its recent high of \$339.35 on October 1st, the

highest gold price since late June.

Financial turmoil in the traditional consuming areas of South East Asia has provoked selling of gold rather than accumulation and the Asian festival and wedding season beginning this quarter is being seen by traders as an opportunity for higher prices. But some concede that the record imports by India - the world's largest gold importer - in the first half of this year, might have reduced the need to buy now.

Gujral Weakened as Cabinet Makes U-Turn

India's divided coalition government tried to defuse a political crisis by overturning its decision to sack a key state assembly.

Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral's Cabinet, bowing to pressure from the Indian president, agreed after a marathon meeting not to dismiss the Hindu nationalist state government in Uttar Pradesh.

President K.R. Narayanan had asked the Cabinet to reconsider its decision to impose direct rule following a mass brawl in the Uttar Pradesh state legislature on Tuesday.

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) hailed the decision as a victory. The BJP, India's largest parliamentary party, shunned by many others for its right-wing stance, had cemented its control in Uttar Pradesh, regarded as India's political heartland, after winning a vote of confidence on Tuesday.

The brawl in the assembly in the state capital of Lucknow, however, and allegations that the BJP had resorted to bribery to win the vote, led to opposition calls for New Delhi to take over the running of the state.

The BJP, vehemently denying the claims, said there had been no breakdown of law and order - a situation required before the national government is allowed to step in.

Uproar over Netanyahu Jibe

Opposition politicians and the Israeli press were in an uproar last week after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said leftist proponents of peace with Arabs have forgotten what it means to be Jewish. Netanyahu was caught by radio microphone making the comment to a venerated Israeli rabbi during a religious ceremony in Jerusalem. Left-wingers have forgotten what it means to be Jewish, he told Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri, spiritual leader of Jewish Kabbalists. "They believe it's possible to put our

security in Arab hands, give them half the country and expect them to protect us. I've never seen anything like it," said Netanyahu.

The exchange, which was also shown on Israeli television, drew an immediate protest from left-wing opposition parties which secured half the vote in 1996 elections.

Even those who voted for Bibi Netanyahu understand now that this man is in a job three times his size and that something must be done.

Yossi Sarid, head of the leftist Meretz party, said Netanyahu has forgotten what it is to be a human being or a prime minister. Meretz announced it would file a parliament censure motion against Netanyahu over the affair and a Labour Party deputy, Ophir Pines, lodged a complaint with police charging the prime minister with incitement against part of the Israeli population. Even members of Netanyahu's own right-wing coalition were quick to distance themselves from his remarks.

5,000 Held in Crackdown on Ilegals

Saudi police have arrested more than 5,000 foreigners since they launched a crackdown on illegal workers more than a week ago. The majority of the 5,000 workers arrested were Indians, Pakistanis, Nigerians and Sudanese. The move to expel foreign workers began on Saturday, October 16 after the expiry of the government's three-month amnesty, allowing illegal residents to leave without being prosecuted.

The Interior Ministry warned that those who did not take advantage of the amnesty would face up to six months in prison and fines of up to 100,000 Saudi riyals.

The embassies of Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Somalia and Nigeria in Riyadh complained to the Saudi Foreign Ministry that their citizens were being ill-treated.

Philippines: Presidential Hopefuls Deny Bribery

Three presidential aspirants such as House Speaker Jose De Venecia, Senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and former defense secretary Renato de Villa denied to a senate committee reports they had given envelopes containing cash to mayors in the recently concluded League of Mayors of the Philippines (LMP) convention at the Manila Midtown Hotel.

Vice President Joseph Estrada, through spokesman Lito Banayo denied having given financial assis-

tance to 24 mayors in Bohol, central Philippines during a dinner held in Manila as arranged by a party official on Oct. 2. De Villa personally appeared before the Senate committee and stated that he considers the act of giving money to mayors as "highly improper," adding, "I categorically deny that I distributed or authorized the distribution of envelopes containing money of any amount to the mayors who attended the convention."

Group to Work for Sudan Reconciliation

A group of Sudanese politicians has formed a team to work for reconciliation between Khartoum and the opposition based in exile.

A delegation from the new Popular Organisation for National Dialogue, led by a former foreign minister who served both ex-premier Sadek el-Mahdi and President Omar al-Beshir, was due to meet the current foreign minister.

The ex-minister, Hussein Suleiman Abu Salih, is due to meet Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohamed Taha and national conference secretary general Ghazi Alah Eddin Atabani to discuss national

Yassin Calls for Jihad

The spiritual leader of the Islamic radical group Hamas, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, called on his followers to conduct Jihad (holy war) against Israel until a Palestinian state is founded "We have vowed to God to be patient Mujahideen (holy warriors), either to meet God as martyrs or live in dignity," Yassin told a crowd of some 3,000 at a ceremony to honor him at Gaza City's Islamic University.

Israel was forced to release Sheikh Yassin, 61, from jail early this month in order to placate King Hussein of Jordan after two Israeli agents tried to assassinate another Hamas leader in Amman on Netanyahu's orders.

نهني الأَخ
خارف حمود ضبعان
بمناسبة الخطوبة . ألف مبروك
المهنؤون
عبدالحكيم، فيصل، كهلان، شاكر، خالد،
مختار، فهد، يحيى، هشام، لطفي ضبعان

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



UNDP

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

National Programme Officer (NPO) - Task Manager

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is inviting applications for the following posts in its office in Sana'a.

This post is for Yemeni Nationals Only

Duties and responsibilities:

The NPO under the general supervision of the Assistant Resident Representative (Team Leader) will perform the following duties:

Responsible for both implementation and development of the task group; participate in the management of UNDP Country Programme activities and the mid-term review in consultation with the Government of Yemen and other UN agencies; analyze the economic, social and political situation in the Republic of Yemen and identify technical cooperation needs relevant to UNDP activities; guide and coordinate the formulation and revision of project documents, appraise programme proposals, introduce in the formulation process new development, modalities, policies and practices; assist in the monitoring of the day-to-day programme and evaluation of progress made by on going projects.

Qualification / experience / skills requirement:

Post-graduate degree preferably supplemented by technical courses in the field related to the work of the organization and computer skills. Minimum 5 years progressively responsible development Programme work of which at least 2 years were closely related to support of development Programme activities. Very good knowledge of English and Arabic is essential.

Remuneration: The net base salary will be within the range of YR1,061,637.00 per annum.

Interested candidates are requested to send their applications with detailed curriculum vitae to:

Operations Manager, UNDP, P. O. Box No. 551, Sana'a.

Applications should be received **no later than 10 November 1997**.

Applications received after this date will not be considered. Only those who strictly meet the requirements could apply and acknowledgment will only be sent to short listed applicants meeting the requirements of the post.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Laboratory Technician Yemeni Nationals

Two Lab Techs. are required for our Operations in Masila Block, Hadramout. Successful candidates will be working on a rotation of 28 days on / 28 days off.

Accountabilities:

- Routinely analysis crude oil for basic sediment, salt API, Reid Vapor Pressure, density, Sulfur, Report results and maintain proper records.
- Routinely test potable water for inorganic compounds, chlorine, residual and microbiological testing.
- Routinely analyzes lubricant oil samples for Kineamtic Viscosity, Total basic Number, Sediment by Extraction.
- Analyzes and produces the certificate of quality for ship loading strictly as per Lifting Agreement and ASTM Standards.
- Routinely analyzes Diesel crude oil for Topping Plant performance.
- Routinely analyzes jet fuel for water reaction test, Aniline Point, Copper Strip Corrosion, Distillation and Flash point.
- Reviews Instrument operation and ensures compliance with API AWWA, APHA, ASTM and manufacturers standards.
- Troubleshoot testing procedures, recommend and implement changes.
- Actively participates in non-routine testing, paraffin and asphaltene spot tests, pour point, demulsifier performance.
- Routinely carries quality control tests on production chemicals including demulsifiers, water clarifiers, Biocides and Corrosion Inhibitors.
- Routinely runs Quality Control Assurance tests to ensure compliance with manufactures recommendations.

Minimum Qualifications and Professional Experience:

- Technical Diploma or degree in chemical, Biology
- At least 10 years experience in isolated situations working single handed
- Trained in advance First Aid.
- Should have had recent practical refresher training to include accidents and emergency.
- At least 5 years experience in traumatology and work related experience.
- Current certification (or equivalent) in advanced cardiac life support is required.
- Must be fluent in both Arabic and English.

If you obtain the above qualification and work experience, please send your CV to the following address by 9 November, 1997.

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen
Human Resources
P. O. Box 15137



ADNOC LUBRICANTS: New Launch In Yemen

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company For Distribution (ADNOC FOD) has, through its agent - Al-Hadha for Trade and General Agencies - launched its sales operation in Sanaa on Wednesday, October 22. The ADNOC FOD launching seminar included the presentation and introduction of several new products. "The current economic climate in Yemen is very conducive for investments," said Mr. Ibrahim Salim, the Lubes and LPG Manager in ADNOC FOD. He also announced, "his company's intention to widen and diversify its investment base in Yemen in the very near future."

ADNOC FOD was established as a state company in 1973 through a decree by HH Sheikh Zayid Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, the President of the UAE. It has grown considerably over the last few years to become one of the biggest petroleum companies in the Gulf. ADNOC FOD employs top administrative and marketing staff. Its products being marketed all over the world, ADNOC FOD has highly remarkable and ambitious marketing plans. "We aim to provide our customers with highest quality of lubricants in the world."



In accordance with directives by HH Sheikh Zayid and HH Sheikh Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and Chairman of the Supreme Petroleum Council, ADNOC FOD has made its top priorities to;

- 1- provide the best services for its customers;
- 2- upholding the excellent quality of its products; and
- 3- achieving the best business relations with its customers on all levels.

ADNOC FOD won the prestigious International Europe Quality Prize in 1994 for the excellence and high standards of its products. During the last quarter of a century ADNOC FOD has successfully implemented and operated a number of ambitious projects. In 1979, ADNOC FOD established a factory for lubricants' mixing and canning. ADNOC FOD, 14 years later, established the second largest and highly advanced factory for producing top-quality lubricants. The installation for bottling liquefied petroleum gas in Al-Ain, UAE, is another of ADNOC FOD's big achievements.

On his part, Mr. Qassem Hussein Al-Hadha - Deputy Director of Al-Hadha For Trading and General Agencies - has



warmly welcomed the new business association with ADNOC FOD. "This step is to improve their sales agent" said Mr. Al-Hadha, adding, "it will serve not only the immediate business partners, but also the people of Yemen and the UAE."

ADNOC FOD produces and distributes a widerange of top-quality lubricants - engine, industrial, hydraulic, and special purpose lubricants. "ADNOC FOD lubricants are manufactured according to top-of-the-range international standards," said the ADNOC FOD Technical Advisor, Dr. Nadeem Najim. He specified compliance with high standards put by the American Petroleum Institute (API), the Military Institute Laboratories (MIL), the British Defense Standards (DEF/STAN), the CCMC, and other international technical bodies. "ADNOC FOD lubricants are accredited by top car and engine manufacturers such as Mercedes, Volks Wagen, Volvo, M.A.C., M.A.N., and several others.



Al Hadha Company for Trading & General Agencies
Sole Agent for ADNOC FOD oils and lubricants

شركة الحدا للتجارة والوكالات العامة
الوكلاء الوحيدون لزيت و شحوم ادنوك في اليمن

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OKTOBERFEST AT SHERATON SANA'A LAYALI TENT 7th, 8th and 9th October



The people who made it possible

The Sheraton Layali Tent changed dress and atmosphere.

A jolly reception team welcomed guests and authorities into an authentic Bavarian spot.

Bright lights, long tables, white and blue squared table cloths and of course barrels and pints of one the protagonists of the feast, passing hands and places, Bavarian costumed waiters, a roaring big German Band, - big in every sense of word!

The sponsors of this festival, the German Embassy of Sana'a, Lufthansa and YATA, were of course with us and with their numerous guests.



Um... Pa... Pa... Band

Everything German was genuinely flown in from Germany: food, drinks, Um ... Pa ... Pa... Band with their bulky equipment, and of course super chefs Dieter Scheller and Wilhelm Riederer.

Outside in the lawn, a lavish Delicatessen buffet, master pieces of Dieter and Wilhelm. From herrings and pickles to Frischkasespezialitat, spatzli, sausages, and sauer krautz, grilled meat and dumplings.

And the dessert corner! Delight of our eyes first. 43 different kind of true German delicacies prepared by Austrian Pastry Chef Daniela and her team, accompanied on the tables by fruity Katzenkopf.



Representative of the official sponsor, Lufthansa, Mr. Nari Shahani with Mr. Sanjay Sharma.

A true Oktoberfest with excellent food and drinks and a very boisterous atmosphere. And surprise surprise! Another authentic protagonist of the Festival flew in directly from Germany: Herr Peter Stadelmann, maestro and orchestra director, who delighted the audience with a great performance of Bavarian tunes.

9th October. Past midnight. The last guests leave, the music is over, till the next celebration.

In Sana'a one comes to Sheraton if one wants to visit the world.



View of the Crowd enjoying the evenings

UPCOMING EVENT- Swiss Food Festival on 3rd, 4th & 5th November

M a b r o o k N a r i!



A beaming Mr. Shahani with Mr. Sharma, Mr. Wurche, Mrs. Shahani, Mr. Melhem and Mr. Schloesser

On 1st October 1997, the newest addition to the expatriate community of Sana'a, Mr. Nari Shahani, completed 25 years of service with Lufthansa. The Sheraton Sana'a Hotel took the opportunity to congratulate him on reaching this milestone and joined him in his happy moment of receiving a citation from Mr. Michael Wurche, General Manager, Passenger Sales Egypt and Director North East Africa. May he achieve many more kudos during his term in Sana'a.

*it's all happening
at Sheraton!*



Cutting the congratulatory cake!

Space sponsored by Shareb Trading



AL-SHOURA: Sanaa
(Weekly) 19-10-97.
(Federation of Popular Forces)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Amid Strong Popular Support, Committee for Defense of Hadhramaut Holds 1st Meeting in Mukalla
- 2) A Man Slaughters 8-Year-Old Boy for Gouging his Cow's Eye - Boy's Father Killed 7 innocent bystanders in Frenzy Fit
- 3) Four More Children Died in Reima After Being Accidentally Vaccinated with Insulin
- 4) 3 Women Committed Suicide by Burning themselves in Separate Incidents in Abyan and Ibb

Article Summary:**Archeological Cave Discovered**

A cave, 2 1/2 km long and several meters high, was discovered in the Woraiqa village in the Hobail Jabar area of Radfan. People in the area became intrigued when the place was visited repeatedly by groups of foreigners some of whom claimed to be archeologists. Village elders indicated that the Jews used to hold religious ceremonies inside the cave before the establishment of the state of Israel. Up until recently, the locals believed the cave to be inhabited by evil spirits. It is probably a rumor created by the Jews to keep people away from the cave, the villagers said. It is thought that the cave contained some antiques that were stolen in the past.



AL-WAHDAWI: Sanaa
(Weekly) 21-10-97.
(Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Saudi Arabia Prepares to Occupy Land with the Biggest Oil Reserve in Yemen
- 2) In Flagrant Constitutional Violation, Parliament Agrees to Opening New Credits for 1997 Budget
- 3) Armed Tribal Groups Block Sanaa-Taiz Road and Hold Some Government Cars in Protest Over Raising Diesel Prices From 6 to 10 Riyals a Liter
- 4) PSO Breaks into Home of Exiled Col: Abdulrahman Hareeri, his Family Complained to Yemeni Human Rights Organization

Article Summary:**Illegal Visas & Red Nights in Sanaa**

Hearings held at the South Sanaa court have revealed the involvement of several Yemenis, Arabs and European diplomats in a vice and fake-visa ring. For lack of evidence, however, a Yemeni and two Sudanese - accused of facilitating the issuance of visas to the Czech Republic - were released. It was alleged that 508 illegal visas were issued to mainly Iraqi citizens by an officer at the Czech embassy in Sanaa in return for as much as \$4,000 a head. The court case was filed by an Iraqi employee at the Czech embassy.

Banquets bringing together foreign diplomats, call girls, and Arab citizens were held at Al-Mankal restaurant in Sanaa. Alcohol was also served at these illicit parties. The Jordanian restaurant owner and his Iraqi wife were also implicated in the court case, but the charges could not be proven.



AL-HAQ: Aden (Weekly) 19-10-97.
(Independent)

News Review:

- 1) Acting general director of a public media estab-

**Yemeni Press in a Week**

by: Adel J. Moqbil

ishment in Aden has embezzled YR 35 million during last few months - predecessor was detained for embezzlement.

2) The number of students admitted into Medicine and Engineering colleges in Aden has increased from 180 to 360 in each college.

3) A 20-year-old depressed man committed suicide by throwing himself from fourth floor of apartment building in Taiz.

4) Yemenis deported from Saudi Arabia arriving in Hodeida port were divided into northerners & southerners - the latter abused by PSO officials.

5) Group from northern governorates broke into restaurant in Aden claiming ownership of land.

6) Children's quarrel led to a doctor and his wife assaulting the family of a pilot away on business - pilot's family had to be taken to hospital.

7) State-owned, 30-room Sun Motel on Gold Mohur beach in Aden is rented to a businessman for only YR 30,000 a month.

8) Molotov cocktail thrown on house of dean of College of Agriculture in Aden.

3) Yemen received formal invitation to participate in Doha economic conference in Qatar.

4) Yemeni official sources: Abduction of foreign tourists is instigated by Saudi Arabia through exiled Mowj opposition group.

5- Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC) evades paying income tax amounting to billion of riyals.

6- Total of France procrastinates in starting gas production in Safer fields - work is going at a very slow pace.

7- Tribal sheikh and his bodyguards attacked Criminal Investigation Directorate in Dhamar to forcefully free one of the sheikh's relatives - one soldier was badly beaten.

8- Tonsillitis operation on 5-year-old boy led to coma and paralysis caused by internal hemorrhaging due to doctors' negligence at Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa.



AL-SAHWA: Sanaa (Weekly) 23-10-97.

[Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah)]

Main Headlines:

1) Amid Strong Public Protests, Parliament Rejects Increase in Diesel Prices and Calls Government for Questioning

2) 10,000 Families to Benefit from Winter Clothing Project Implemented by Islah Charitable Society

3) All-Out Teachers' Strike Succeeded in Making Government Draft Law to Protect Teachers' Rights

Article Summary:**Drunkards in Aden**

Residents of the 14th of October quarter in Tawahi, Aden, have complained to the authorities of the immoral conducts of some drunkards in their area. Bootlegging has increased considerably, especially after the 1994 war, the residents said. There are now 25 illegal alcohol factories. There were only 5 during the Marxist rule. It is alleged that late at night some drunkards throw stones at houses, urinate outside mosques, utter blasphemies, peep into houses, and do other immoral acts. The letter has brought to mind the recent case of a father who raped his daughter while under the influence of alcohol.



AL-JAMAHEER: Sanaa
(Weekly) 23-10-97.

(Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party)

News Review:

1) Minister of Transportation was subpoenaed by the Public Property deputy prosecutor-general for YR 1,2 billion of outstanding taxes to be paid by Telecommunication Establishment.

2) Saudi Arabia deported more than 30,000 illegal Yemeni workers after being ill-treated.



26 SEPTEMBER: Sanaa
(Weekly) 23-10-97.

(Yemeni Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

1) The President Starts Official Visit to France

2) Arab Monetary Fund to Provide \$85 Million Loan to Yemen

3) Minister of Petroleum: "The increase in diesel prices will help implement utility and development projects."

4) Several Kidnappers of

Foreign Tourists to Appear in Court

Article Summary:

A Scheme for a Society Without Qat by: Iskander Asbahi

To gradually eradicate the habit of chewing qat, the following can be done.

1- Using pesticides in qat growing must be strictly prohibited.

2- Very strict regulations must be imposed on the irrigation of qat farms so as to avoid the depletion of underground water.

3- Qat sold to the public must be clean of dirt in accordance with pre-determined health regulations.

4- Taxes must be imposed on qat growing, sale, and consumption - the levied money can be used to finance social security projects.

5- Qat chewing must be prohibited in public places and government offices.

6- TV scenes of qat chewing must be prevented, and a public awareness media campaign be executed.

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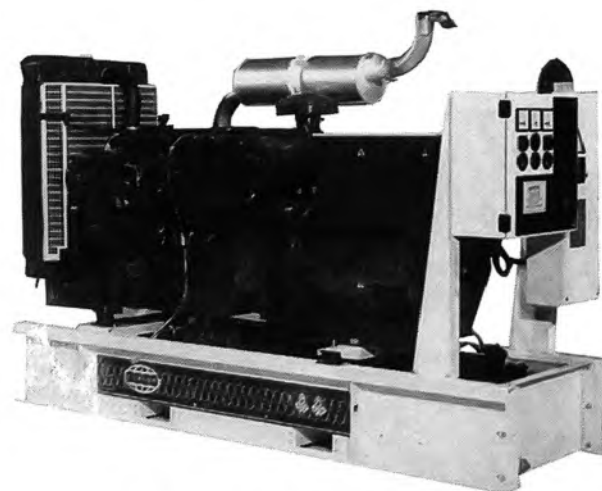
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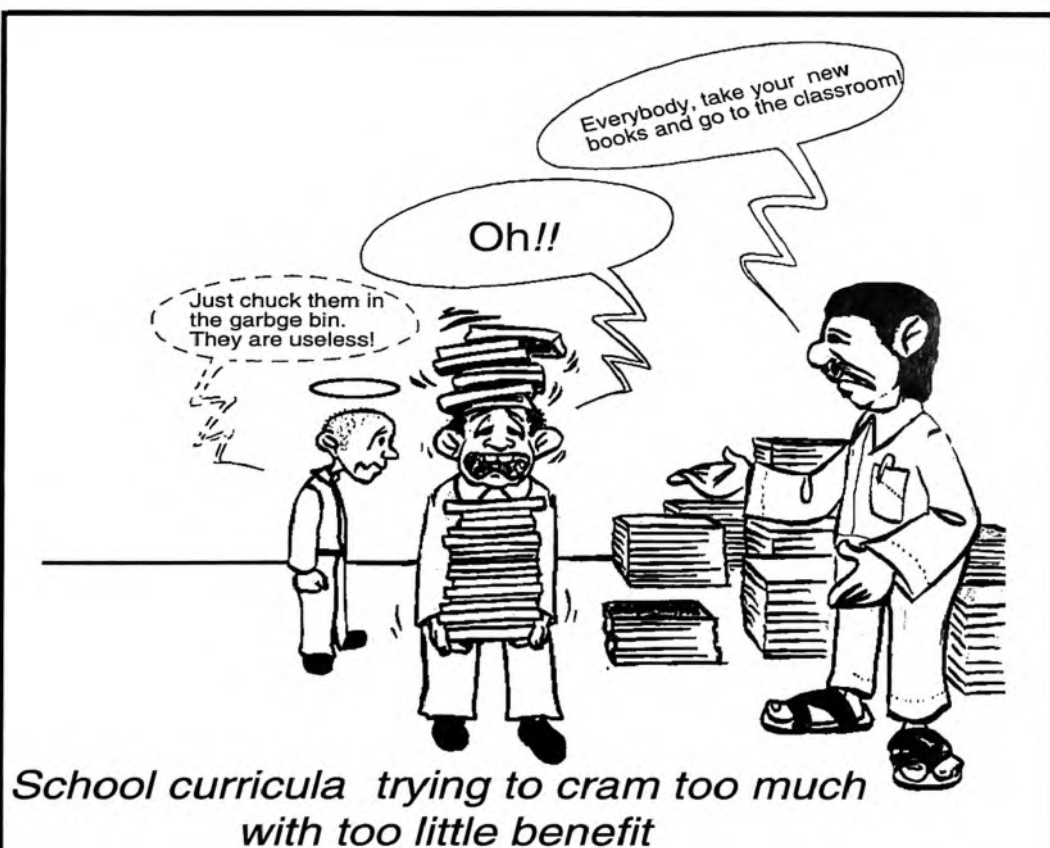
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*School curricula trying to cram too much
with too little benefit*

Naseem's First Visit to Yemen in 1993 Fond Memories

Prince Naseem Salem Ali, the WBO and IBF feather-weight champion, visited Yemen in December, 1993, upon an invitation by president of the Yemeni Olympic Committee, Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Al-Kabab. Prince Naseem visited several governorates including Sana'a, Aden, Al-Beidah and Taiz. At that time I was in charge of organizing the program of the visit. Naseem's father, Mr. Salem Ali went to the Ministry of Youth and Sport, asking the authorities to help his son Naseem, who had been an amateur boxer in Sheffield, UK, to participate in the Barcelona Olympic games to represent Yemen. He brought some video tapes of Naseem's matches, but nobody paid any attention to him at that time. We as usual want a ready-made champion. Naseem was not an international boxing champion as he is now. So he was not given the chance to participate. Mr.



Salem Ali could not meet the Minister of Youth and had to return to England. When I came back from a training course in Germany, I learnt that a boxer living in England wanted to represent Yemen in any international or Arab championship. His name is Naseem. I met his father in July, 1993 at the Ministry of Youth. He told me that Naseem adopted boxing as a profession. The Minister of Youth agreed to the visit of Naseem to Yemen as a boxer showing promise. Naseem had no international title at that time and his name was hardly known in Sheffield (Naseem's birthplace).

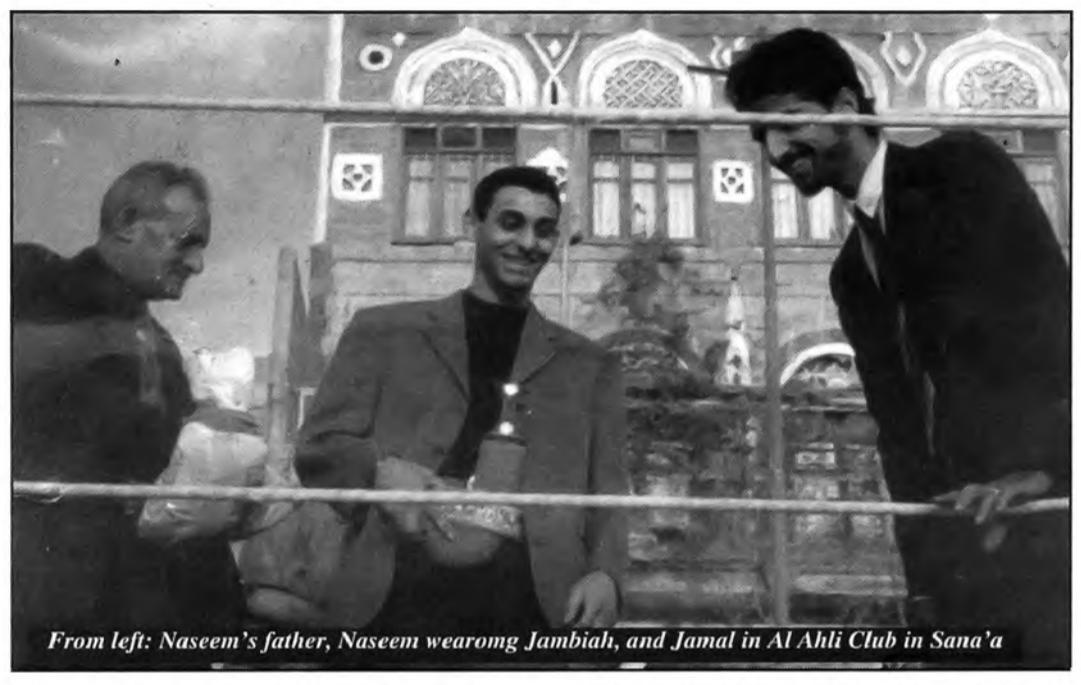
The Minister of Youth issued his directives to the authorities to pay for the tickets. We began a battle with the routine at the Ministry of Finance. If it were not for the patriotism of Mr. Ahmed Hussein Al-Basha, former Deputy Minister of Finance, we could not have obtained the tickets. Mr. Ahmed Al-Basha directed the Ministry of Youth to grant six tickets to Naseem, his father, his brothers and his coach. Some arrangements had been made and I arranged the program of the visit by fax. I informed them of the arrival date. The Secretariat of the Presidency provided us with a Mercedes to take the champion and his family. Naseem was surprised of the big attention which had been paid to him.

When President Ali Abdullah Saleh was informed of Naseem's insignificant achievements at that time, he directed that he should be provided with all the necessary help. In those days, Naseem was taking strides towards international fame. He played six professional matches. President Ali Abdullah Saleh received Naseem at the presidential palace and presented him a \$12,000

golden Rolex watch. Naseem Said, "the interest and care of Mr. President motivated me to continue fighting towards world championship as I promised him." I suggested that Naseem should visit Taiz before Aden since the journey to Aden takes 8 hours. In Aden, Mr. Ahmed Al-Dhulai' received the Prince who stayed four days. Then he moved to Radaa - his father's birthplace - and after that returned to Sana'a. Naseem said during his return, "the interest and care I got from people who do not know me made me want to snatch the world champion title."

victory as a gift to the leader and the people of Yemen.

Naseem played in one of his most important matches with the Argentine boxer Sergio Lendo in Scotland. Many people attend the match and next to me was Mr. Hussein Al-Amri, the Yemeni Ambassador in London, who came from London to Glasgow. I told Naseem in Sheffield that it would take time for him to be a world champion. He replied saying that "you will see Jamal, I will snatch the title this



From left: Naseem's father, Naseem wearing Jambiah, and Jamal in Al Ahli Club in Sana'a

Naseem made a statement to the British press and praised the President for his caring about the youth in Yemen. I translated some articles into Arabic for some local Newspapers. Naseem got the European championship title in May, 1994, and offered his

year." Actually, Naseem defeated Steve Robinson by delivering a knockout in the eighth round before 20,000 spectators and that was in Cardiff in August, 1995. So the war of title snatching had started and Prince Naseem has become a king in world boxing.

Emirates Cricket Cup 1997 Award Ceremony

On 24th Oct 97, a Cheerful Crowd was gathered at Taj Sheeba to celebrate the Award-giving Ceremony for "Emirates Cricket Cup 97" organized by Yemen Cricket Association. The British Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Victor Handreson; the Pakistani Ambassador H.E. Mr. Amin J. Naim; the Advisor to Minister of Sports, Mr. Mohammed Abdulwali; the Emirates Country Manager, Mr. Adnan Fateh Kazim were the Guests of Honour. Masroor Alam Siddiqui, YCA Secretary, welcomed the respected guests and then requested Mr. David Pearce, YCA Vice Chairman, to come on the stage and continue the program. David took over and welcomed the distinguished guests and gave a Banner of Cricket Slogan to Sheikh. Tariq Abdullah, YCA Chairman and requested him to address the gathering. Sh. Tariq Abdulla welcomed three excellencies and respected guests. He thanked the sponsors, especially Emirates Airlines, for their generous sponsorship which enabled the YCA to

start the 1997 season. He also thanked the cosponsors DHL Worldwide - Philips - Ashtal Travel - Pepsi and Taj Sheba for their generous sponsorship. He also thanked the participating teams for their active participation in the tournament, discipline and sportsman spirit that brought the tournament to a successful end. H.E. Mr. Victor Handreson, H.E. Mr. Amin J. Naim also addressed and appreciated the efforts of the YCA for organizing such a good cricket tournament and a well-organized Award Ceremony. Mr. Mohammed Abdul Wali conveyed the Message of H.E. Dr. Abdul Wahab Rawah Minister of Youth & Sports. Mr. Adnan F. Kazim, Emirates Country Manager, said in his speech, that Emirates will sponsor again the next season in a much better way and also other games in Yemen. Mr. Sikandar Mohammed, Chairman of the sponsorship committee thanked the sponsors and his counterpart Ajay Tondon for his support to get the sponsorships.

After the speeches, Certificates of Participation in the tournament were awarded to all members of the teams by the ambassadors. Then Adnan of Emirates awarded the Man of the Matches. Arif Butt of PTC was awarded the Best Bowler of the Tournament award. Sayeed Wasi Hider was announced as the Best Batsman of the tournament and also the MAN OF THE SERIES for his all round performances by Mr. Mohammed Abdul Wali. Sh. Tariq Abdullah gave the Token of Thanks to the UMPIRES who devoted their time for a thankless job. Reported by Masroor A. Siddiqui



Honoring Man of the Series

Excellent League Football Tournament Launched: Ahli Beats Shaab 5-4

Attended by the Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Abdulwahab Raweh, the Excellent League Football Tournament was launched on Thursday, October 23 at the Dharafi stadium. The opening match between the Ahli of Sanaa and Shaab of Ibb reached a one goal draw. In order to avoid trouble between fans, the referee ended the match with penalty kicks. Thus, the Ahli



defeated the Shaab 5-4. During the first half of the match, players of both teams appeared to be in good physical fitness. However, during the second half, both teams took on a more defensive method of playing. This disappointed the enthusiastic fans.

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Al-Haiqi's 3rd Exhibition: Technique, Change and Environment

Sabri Abdulkareem Al-Haiqi is an aspiring Yemeni painter. With a B.A. degree in drama criticism from Kuwait University, Sabri, 36, is one of a new breed of Yemeni intellectuals who will help shape the future of this country. He also holds a high diploma in general management. He works in the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and a member of the Modern Art Group in the National Arts Center. Sabri Al-Haiqi displayed his work in:

1. January, 1994 1st solo exhibition in Dammon Gallery, Sana'a;
 2. March, 1996 2nd solo exhibition in Sana'a University; and
 3. October, 1997 3rd solo exhibition in the Cultural Center, Sana'a.
- He wrote drama and poetry collections, some of which were translated into Italian and French. He is a member of the consultative board of the "Culture" magazine. His third exhibition included 45 modern art



paintings. These paintings were inspired by the Yemeni environment, heritage, poetry and popular dress. They express the urban and rural Yemeni architecture. "It is a whole language for expressing myself. Every color has a psychological environment and different values. For example, white color bears the meaning of sadness - the shroud - as well as purity and happiness - the wedding dress. Yellow, on the other hand, means death - the withering of leaves," said Sabri of his choice of color. As far as his artistic style is concerned, Sabri explained, "I don't draw in the realist style but I portray reality as a poetic picture which can have more than one meaning. At this stage, the art and its use come to transcend the actual historical meaning to the artistic meaning in more than one way."

Of Sabri's, the Yemeni artist and critic Madhar Nizar said, "he is distinguished in his style and his work seems as if it comes from another. His technique and his letters are etched in our memory." Many of the colors used and lines are arranged in gradual earth like tones giving the observer the impression of surreal landscapes. Others are more futuristic in their approach showing representations of mans urbanization in Yemen.



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